



CPRE Initial Application



Applicant Information

First Name: _____ MI: _____ Last Name: _____

*The name listed above must match the photo ID you will provide to the testing administrator. Acceptable forms of photo identification include: a current driver's license with photograph, a current state identification card with photograph, a current passport, or a current military identification card with photograph. Employment ID cards, student ID cards, and any types of temporary identification **are not** acceptable.

Address (please circle-Work/Home) _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

NRPA Member Yes # _____ No

Do you have a disability that would require special accommodations for taking the examination? Yes No
If yes, please complete the Special Accommodation Request Form, available at www.nrpa.org/cpre

Certification Fees and Payment Information

(Exam fees are non-refundable)

NRPA Member Rate-\$345.00

Non-NRPA Member Rate-\$404.00

Please make checks payable to: National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)

Check Credit Card: Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name on Credit Card: _____

CVV: _____

Signature: _____

Billing Address: _____



CPRE Eligibility Standards

(Please check appropriate eligibility)

Candidate must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited education institution, no less than 5 years full-time manager experience, and hold a current CPRP certification to sit for the CPRE examination; OR

Candidate must hold a master's or higher degree from a regionally accredited education institution, no less than 4 years full-time manager experience, and hold a current CPRP certification to sit for the CPRE examination.

Academic Education Information

Proof of eligibility standards in the form of qualifying documentation is not required at the time of initial application; some applications will be randomly selected for audit to ensure the accuracy and validity of the data provided

Please complete the fields below:

Degree Earned (Please list both degree type and major if applicable):

Institution: _____

City, State: _____

Degree Conferred Date: ____/____/____



Qualifying Work Experience

All CPRE candidates must have met a standard set of competencies before sitting for the CPRE certification examination. All CPRE candidates must have experience in all areas listed below in the field of parks and recreation.

Work experience is defined by your employer. Alternatives to full-time employment include the following:

- Part-time Employment - 1 year of employment is equivalent to 6 months of full-time employment
- Consultants – experience should be accompanied by three letters of reference

**Seasonal/temporary work not accepted*

Please see **Additional Resources (Page 6)** for a list of acceptable job tasks in each competency area. All CPRE candidates must have experience in the areas listed below at a middle manager or higher level. Circle all that apply:

Communication	Yes	No
Finance	Yes	No
Human Resources	Yes	No
Operations	Yes	No
Planning & Policy	Yes	No

Most Recent Qualifying Position:

Candidate Job Title: _____

Agency: _____

Agency Address/City/State: _____

Name & Title of Supervisor: _____ Phone: _____

Dates of Employment (M/Y) _____ to _____

Employment status:

Full-time _____ Part-time _____ Seasonal _____ Other (please identify): _____



Previous Qualifying Position(s):

Candidate Job Title: _____

Agency: _____

Agency Address/City/State: _____

Name & Title of Supervisor: _____ Phone: _____

Dates of Employment (M/Y) _____ to _____

Employment status:

Full-time _____ Part-time _____ Seasonal _____ Other (please identify): _____

Candidate Job Title: _____

Agency: _____

Agency Address/City/State: _____

Name & Title of Supervisor: _____ Phone: _____

Dates of Employment (M/Y) _____ to _____

Employment status:

Full-time _____ Part-time _____ Seasonal _____ Other (please identify): _____

Candidate Job Title: _____

Agency: _____

Agency Address/City/State: _____

Name & Title of Supervisor: _____ Phone: _____

Dates of Employment (M/Y) _____ to _____

Employment status:

Full-time _____ Part-time _____ Seasonal _____ Other (please identify): _____



Codes of Conduct, Disclosure, and Attestations

- In submitting this application, I fully understand that this application does not guarantee certification.
- I agree to comply with all CPRE program policies as outlined in the CPRP&E Policies and Procedures Manual and CPRE Candidate Handbook and supply further information as determined by the NRPA staff, the CPRP&E Certification Committee and/or the National Certification Board. I understand and attest that I will, now and in the future, adhere to the Code of Conduct as outlined in the CPRP&E Policy and Procedure Manual. I further understand that false information submitted will provide the basis for withdrawal of certification
- I understand the National Certification Board reserves the right to revise or update all policies, procedures, and the code of conduct related to the CPRP&E programs and that it is my responsibility to be aware of these current requirements. I further understand that it is my responsibility to provide any requested documentation in connection with this application.
- I understand and agree that if I am certified following acceptance of this application and successful completion of the examination, such certification does not constitute a warranty or guarantee of my fitness or competency to practice as a park and recreation executive.
- I understand and agree that the National Certification Board and NRPA may also use anonymous and aggregate application and examination data for statistical and research purposes. I authorize NRPA and the National Certification Board to release my contact information and current certification status to appropriate park and recreation leadership, the media, and the general public.

NRPA offers a complete list of certified professionals (name, city, state and email) through our online certification registry.
This information is public information, if you do not wish to have your email posted on the registry please check this box

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Return application and payment information to:
 National Recreation and Park Association
 CL#500007
 PO Box 5007
 Merrifield, VA 22116-5007



Additional Resources

Certified Park and Recreation Executive (CPRE) Core Competencies:

(Qualifying Candidates must have experience with one or more job task under each core competency to qualify)

Communication

- Promote the benefits of specific programs and services to the community
- Provide education regarding the value and benefits of parks and recreation (e.g., for staff, the public, commissions stakeholders, policy makers, etc.)
- Solicit public support for the mission and goals of the organization (e.g., formation/support of friends groups)
- Collect public input regarding policies (e.g., addressing constituent comments, public hearings, focus groups, surveys)
- Communicate organization's vision and mission to personnel and stakeholders
- Collaborate with external groups, committees, advisory boards, agencies, and councils
- Promote the organization through marketing and branding
- Formalize relationships with outside community organizations (e.g., leagues, associations, clubs, non-profits, school districts, faith-based organizations)
- Advocate on behalf of the organization to public and media
- Advocate for public support of the organization (e.g., initiatives to advance the profession, need for funding)
- Follow the organization's internal chain of communication
- Foster internal and external departmental relationships
- Provide input for reports (e.g., annual, strategic plan, budget)
- Disseminate organization reports (e.g., annual report, financial reports, statistical data, project updates)
- Communicate financial policies, philosophies, and budget status to subordinates (e.g., cost recovery analysis philosophy, budget update reports)
- Develop marketing strategic plan, e.g., press releases, advertising, presentations
- Communicate with elected officials, legislative boards, commissions (e.g., navigating the political environment, lobbying, advocating for policies)
- Maintain customer relationships (e.g., respond to customer concerns, requests for information)

Finance

- Collect financial and/or operating data (e.g., attendance, revenues, expenditures)
- Implement cash handling practices (e.g., retail sales, rentals, fee collection, deposits, petty cash)
- Prepare requests for alternative support (e.g., grants, donations, sponsorships, in-kind services, matching funds)
- Research sources of alternative support (e.g., grants, donations, sponsorships, in-kind services, matching funds)
- Seek and develop additional revenue sources (e.g., bond issues, trust funds, endowments, foundations, investment funds, new concessions or business opportunities, state, federal, or private grants)
- Conduct cost recovery analysis for a specific area in order to recommend fee schedules
- Manage area specific contracts
- Administer asset management protocol
- Develop and implement fee collection procedures
- Recommend fee schedules & policies
- Establish fee schedules & policies or philosophies



Finance (Cont.)

- Develop a program budget
- Develop and administer comprehensive agency budget (e.g., monitoring revenues and expenditures, allocating funds)
- Communicate budget needs to supervisor
- Operate within an existing budget
- Prepare budget for areas of responsibility
- Manage budget for areas of responsibility
- Develop and/or finalize contracts and lease agreements (e.g., MOUs, Cooperative Endeavor Agreements, Joint Use Agreements, RFPs, etc.)
- Initiate the bid process for commodities and capital acquisitions and improvements (e.g., obtain and approve specifications for RFPs and requisitions, comply with purchasing requirements)
- Prepare financial analyses and reports (e.g., reconciliation of revenues, cost recovery analysis, budget justification, trend analysis)

Human Resources

- Develop & approve job descriptions
- Conduct hiring process for new employees (recruit, review applications, interview, hire)
- Design and conduct training for staff, board members, advocacy groups, volunteers
- Enforce the policies and procedures of the human resources department or union
- Evaluate personnel performance (e.g. develop goals, recommendations, work plans)
- Manage time cards, payroll, and/or employee records
- Perform personnel actions (e.g. disciplinary actions, coaching, recognitions, terminating, grievances)
- Supervise interns and employees
- Determine pay levels for subordinate staff within organization
- Manage employee resources (e.g., employee assistance, grievances, benefits, performance coaching, career development, staff allocation)
- Monitor labor relations (e.g., meet with labor organizations such as unions or HR departments/divisions)

Operations

- Manage contract agreements with independent contractors
- Conduct assessment of specific programs, areas, products, services
- Establish relationships with outside organizations (e.g., leagues, associations, clubs, non-profits, school districts, faith-based organizations, advocacy/friends groups)
- Collaborate with related organizations (e.g., leagues, school districts, other districts/departments, state and federal environmental/natural resource agencies, state affiliates, professional associations)
- Develop energy efficient and environmentally friendly procedures (e.g., disposal methods, purchasing of efficient supplies, Green initiatives, LEED, recycling)
- Implement maintenance standards (e.g., perform or request troubleshooting, routine maintenance, preventative maintenance, repairs or replacement)
- Stay current with changes in applicable regulatory agency policies
- Implement policies & procedures, health codes, OSHA, ADA
- Provide input for updating standard operating procedures/manuals
- Provide reasonable accessibility accommodations
- Review site plans, bid specifications, and maps
- Analyze operating data (e.g. attendance, revenue, expenditures, maintenance, marketing)
- Develop standard operating procedures/manuals



Operations (Cont.)

- Compile information to defend agency in the event of accidents
- Enforce code of conduct for facility users and program participants, coaches, and staff
- Develop emergency management plan
- Develop risk management, safety, security plans, policies and procedures
- Implement risk management, safety, security plan (e.g., addresses safety concerns, recognizes risk, identify hazards, pre- and post-opening inspections)
- Develop plan to accommodate participants with disabilities
- Provide customer service, both internal and external
- Manage customer relationships (e.g., service recovery, recognition, retention)
- Manage properties (e.g. parks, facilities, areas)
- Monitor capital improvements (e.g. renovations, building new facilities)
- Provide input regarding capital improvements based on operational needs
- Evaluate participant satisfaction, program outcomes

Planning & Policy

- Analyze trends and best practices
- Assist with development of emergency management plan
- Collect public input (e.g. public hearings, focus groups, surveys)
- Develop a plan to include participants with disabilities
- Develop a comprehensive program plan
- Identify needs for new facilities, services, and capital improvements
- Provide input/updates for agency strategic/master plan (e.g. area specific work plan)
- Administer capital improvement plan
- Identify methods for land or other property acquisitions (e.g., conservation or other easements, fee simple, cooperative ventures or purchases, park dedication ordinances, copyright and patent, bonds)
- Propose land or property acquisitions for future development
- Participate in research with outside agencies and institutions (e.g., trend analysis, technology, social needs, benchmarks, cooperative agreements)
- Develop and administer risk management, safety, security plans
- Develop and administer the agency strategic/master plan
- Develop and implement emergency management plan
- Oversee and administer capital improvement plan
- Participate in planning to ensure park development, intermodal access, environmental quality
- Participate in research through cooperative agreements or contracts with academic or private institutions (e.g., trend analysis, technology, social needs, benchmarks)
- Support sustainable economic development (e.g., environmental conservation, tourism, attracting business, improving property values, attracting residents)
- Define organizational structure and adjust structure to address changing needs and trends
- Develop and present proposals, budgets, and justifications to policy makers
- Develop and recommend agency specific policies, regulations, codes, laws, rules, etc.
- Ensure agency compliance with national, state, and local laws and regulations
- Establish vision and mission for the organization
- Develop energy efficient and environmentally friendly policies (e.g., disposal methods, purchasing of efficient supplies, Green initiatives, LEED, recycling)